



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®

## Lake Tahoe Basin Framework Study

### Monthly Executive Summary

#### Report # 6

July 2002

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Shading or yellow highlight indicates a change-in-status or unresolved issue

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#### Expected New Objectives For the Next Month

- **Objective**. Meet with Congressional staff and Corps HQ representatives to resolve *expanded project report* scope issue. Meeting expected to occur week of July 8<sup>th</sup>.
- **Objective**. Complete and launch a web page in August where Corps technical documents will be made available to the public during the life of the study. Final products of permanent use to basin stakeholders can be transferred to more conventional basin web sites at a later date. This interim web site will be sited at the Corps Sacramento District.

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#### May/June Objectives/Completion

##### Updated

- **Resolved**. A coalition of business, agency and environmental groups reaffirmed the original direction for the draft Urban Stormwater Study Plan. Comments on the final draft PMP requested significant changes to the proposed scope. The response to comments will address the reason comments could not be incorporated.

##### Updated

- **Information** Met with WQWG, LTFAC and several Basin and T&WQC stakeholders explain proposed direction of expanded project report.
  - **Information**. During the Urban Stormwater Stakeholder meeting, O&M was identified as one priority, which may be less appropriate subject matter than long range planning/ master plan that the Consultant suggests.
  - **Information**. Interesting Synergy. The same USDA National Sedimentation Lab (same person in fact) that the Corps wants to team with for the stream erosion study is already contracted thru the US EPA to do a cursory sediment/TMDL evaluation of 200 priority US watersheds. The US EPA study appears to be a more superficial analysis than proposed under the Corps effort. One of those watersheds is Lake Tahoe! The Corps effort will build significantly on this EPA effort to get to the requested level of detail. Unwittingly, a USDA/EPA/Corps collaboration.
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## April Objectives/Completion

- **Resolved Apr 11, 02.** Delays are manageable with minimal impact. Urban Stormwater Management portion of the Framework Study suffered probable delay due to slow start including postponed initial meeting.
  - **Not Yet Complete.** Resolve scope of work for proposed **expanded project report**.
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## March Objectives/Completion

- **Completed Successfully Mar 5, 02.** Meeting between Local Stakeholders and Senate appropriation subcommittee staff in Washington DC.
  - **Completed Successfully Mar 15, 02.** Meeting between Corps and Carl Hasty and Lynda Hyce to continue discussion regarding scope of work on proposed expanded project report. The PM has provided alternative scoping proposal material to Carl to possibly help local stakeholders formulate a consensus on scope.
- Updated**
- **Complete.** Corps/USDA R&D Labs have been given direction to proceed with Stream Erosion study following discussion of final technical clarification with Lahontan. The scope of work for the stream erosion is slightly delayed while R&D Laboratory staff can discuss the issue further with Lahontan RWQCB (delay is not Lahontan). PM has stopped developing alternative resources to perform this work.
  - **Completed Somewhat Successfully April 12, 02.** Current method is viewed by Corps as stopgap, but functional. Corps policy is roadblock to desired future outcome. Corps and TRPA in discussion to specify cost and process for SAG review of technical products.
  - **Completed Unsuccessfully (Failure) 10 April 02:** Effort stymied by Corps policy, which would allow funding only to flow from TRPA to Corps, not the other way. Corps is exploring avenues to facilitate cost sharing/transfer between the Corps and non-Federal stakeholders. The Corps has opened a dialogue with Corps HQ to pursue a unique MOU to allow this function. Initial contact was neutral to positive.
  - **Completed Successfully.** Re-focus the stream erosion project element at the request of local sponsors to provide a bulk numerical nutrient value rather than only a plan to achieve that number. Cost and schedule impact will be reported in April.
  - **Completed Successfully** – Conclude a ready-for-review PMP for GW, Sewer, & Storm water elements of PMP.
  - **Ongoing.** Begin outreach for potential **expanded project report** stakeholder group. This group will likely include LTFCA and Federal Interagency Partnership and public meetings.
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## **February Objectives/Completion**

- **Completed Successfully.** Fully fund, execute contracts, and proceed with work on three of four initial elements of work (groundwater, shore zone sewers, and urban storm water).

### **Updated**

- **Completed Successfully.** Continue discussion regarding the scope of work for the fourth initial element (stream erosion) with Corps R&D Laboratory. While details remain, work is ready to proceed.

- **Completed Successfully Feb 20, 02.** Met with TRPA to begin discussion of conceptual scope of work on proposed ***expanded project report***\* which could include evaluation of a Comprehensive Authority for the Federal Partnership at Lake Tahoe.

\* Note: The term ***expanded project report*** will be used until further notice to designate that portion of the project that could be used to further define either Federal participation in the EIP or further Federal authorizations. The ***expanded project report*** is the fifth project element.

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## **View of the Stakeholders:**

**New:** Members of Congress have expressed concern that the scope for the ***expanded project report*** scope of work does not go far enough to resolve perceived Federal needs in Lake Tahoe basin restoration efforts.

Local sponsors have expressed satisfaction with the speed and scope of the GW and sewer risk evaluations portions project.

Local sponsors have expressed concern regarding the Corps understanding the unique nature of working with Basin stakeholders and how Corps policy is implemented.

Some local sponsors have expressed concern regarding the role of the Corps in the Tahoe Basin vis-à-vis the scope of the ***expanded project report*** and the context of any environmental document (NEPA) that would be associated with that ***expanded project report***.

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## **Expenditures:**

- **Over 81% (up from 75% in Update # 5)** of FY02 funds have been obligated through contracts or firm orders.

- It is expected that over 80% of FY02 funds will be expended on the original four elements of the project identified in December by local stakeholders.
- It is expected that over 95% of FY02 funds will be expended in FY 02.
- While expenditures for FY 02 are well ahead of schedule due to fast award of defined project elements (groundwater, storm, sewer, erosion), delays in finalizing scope of the remaining project element may threaten completion dates and availability of funding going forward.

### **Schedule Milestones:**

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Scheduled Completion</b>	<b>Actual Completion</b>
<b>Expanded Project Report</b>		
Scope/PMP Complete	May 2002	LATE: see Issues & Recom'dations
Draft Report Review	Aug 2003	
Final Report Complete	Nov 2003	
<b>Groundwater</b>		
Initial stakeholder meeting to discuss scope	23 Jan 02	23 Jan 02
Final Technical Project Management Plan	1 Feb 02	10 Feb 02
Interim Study Update	Apr 02 May02	21 May 02
Attend public and stakeholder meeting to discuss study	14 May 02	cancelled by Lahontan
Meet with WQWG		11 June 02 NEW!
Data Collection	31 Oct 02	
In Progress Review (SAG et. al.)	31 May 02	21 May 02
Reduction Alternatives Formulation	31 Dec 02	
Draft Groundwater Study Report	17 Jan 02	
Comment Resolution Conference	17 Feb 03	
Final Groundwater Study Report	1 Mar 03	
<b>Wastewater Line Risk Evaluation</b>		
Tabular Summaries of Available Data	12 Jul 02	
Technical Memorandum No. 1 – Planning Constraints and Criteria	31 Mar 02	April 02
Technical Memorandum No. 2 – Basis of Design & Problems and Needs	30 Jun 02	slight delay
Technical Memorandum No. 3 – Exfiltration Element	12 Jul 02	
Summary Tables		
Risk Reduction Measures	9 Jul 02	
Technical Memorandum No. 4 – Preferred Measures	23 Aug 02	
Final Action Plan Report	30 Sep 02	
<b>Urban Stormwater PMP complete</b>	Apr02	June/July
	(delay at request of reviewing agencies)	
<b>Stream Erosion evaluation complete</b>		
Initiate Evaluation	Mar 02	June 02
Complete Evaluation	June 03	Sept 03

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Team Members at present:

Coalition – Customer  
Basin Executives – Customer  
John Reuter - UC Davis TRG  
Jeremy Sokulsky- Lahontan  
RWQCB  
Matt Graham - TRPA  
Larry Benoit - TRPA  
Lynda Hyce - TRPA  
Scott Miner – Corps  
Carolyn Meza - Programs  
Melissa Kieffer - Corps  
Meegan Nagy - Corps  
Blake Johnson – CDM  
Phillip Brozek – Corps PM

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